



LifeRing Secular Recovery

Board Of Directors Monthly Meeting Minutes

Sunday April 14, 2024

Call to Order and Identification of Public Attendees

Sue Betts called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM Pacific Time.

Board Members	Present	Absent
Sue Betts	√	
Bobbi Campbell	√	
Monica Foy	√	
Joe Franklin	√	
Rafal Klopotoski	√	
Mary Beth O'Connor		√
Njon Sanders	√	
Robert Stump	√	
Lisa Swing-Corney	√	

Non-Board Members Present:

- Anna ATX
- Laura M.
- Robby J.
- Taresa N.
- Mark F.
- Michael A.
- Lorraine H – Director of Development

Approval Of Consent Agenda

March 2024 Minutes

Monica made a motion to approve the March minutes. Joe seconded.

VOTE: Sue confirmed approval with one abstention.

March 2024 Financial Report

Lisa raised a question about the Statement of Activity

- Expenses for Category 8550 Outreach are higher than in Q1 2023.
- Higher because CPAs recently added the Programs category.
 - It accounts for funds spent on outreach.
 - Outreach funds were previously categorized differently.

Lisa also raised a question about the Statement of Financial Position.

- Liabilities are considerably higher than in Q1 2023.
- Federal taxes are the largest liability listed.
 - Taxes are held on the books as a liability until paid to the IRS and California.
 - Robert will investigate why payroll taxes are greater than in Q1 2023.

Monica made a motion to table the March 2024 Financial Report. Joe seconded.

VOTE: Sue confirmed a majority vote to table the March 2024 Financial Report.

Ongoing Business

Relations With International Entities

Lisa and Mary Beth are close to having a preliminary version of an International Agreement to present to the Board. They are editing Cooley's latest draft.

Website Redesign

Bobbi shared the latest developments:

- The main web developer has assigned a team of developers to the project.
- The new team provided a mockup to the Website Committee, who will make some changes.
- Taresa and Daniel are providing user experience input in the role of a newcomer to the site.
- There will be a front page meetings widget, making meetings easy to find and join.
- Prototype page: <https://swgserver.net/designs/LifeRing/LR-home-4A.php>
- Test page: <https://lsrtesting.com/>

New Business

Board Letter of Commitment

Sue and Lisa updating the letter to make it current. Board members are encouraged to evaluate it and make edits. Deadline: May 12, 2024.

Funding Request: CCAR | MPRC In New Haven, August 2024

Request to approve a maximum of \$1,500 to pay some of Mary Beth's expenses as she attends the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery's annual Multiple Pathways of Recovery Conference.

- The Finance Committee has approved the expense in accordance with the new procedure.
- Njon asked if CCAR will compensate MPRC speakers as they have in the past.
- The question also arose if there is a local Connecticut resource who can attend.

Sue made a motion to table the request pending further discussion with conference organizers and Mary Beth. Njon seconded.

VOTE: Sue confirmed a unanimous vote to table the request.

Children in Meetings

Discussion Highlights:

- Should it be a convenor decision to allow children of attendees to be present?
- A child was seen in a Zoom meeting, making an attendee uncomfortable regarding appropriate language.
- Njon will draft a set of guidelines/best practices, not only for children but any non-attendees present in online and in-person meetings.

Letter of Support / Minnesota Recovery Options Act (HF 3468/SF 3459)

LifeRing has provided a letter of support for a bill before the Minnesota Legislature. It would allow secular choices for court-mandated recovery programs. The bill has not yet been brought to a vote.

DEI BOD Awareness – Areas of Interest

Lisa shared this month's resource, an [Inclusion Hub guide](#) outlining some of the daily challenges and experiences of people with speech and language disorders and how they overcome them.

Lisa also requested additional topics and resources for DEI awareness.

2024 LifeRing Annual Conference

The Annual Conference will be held June 8th and June 9th.

- All convenors have been contacted in a call for delegates.
- May 30, 2024 is the deadline for delegates to volunteer.

Reports

Treasurer's Report

Joe shared the Treasurer's report, with January – March numbers, compared to the same period in 2023. Highlights:

- Cost of Goods Sold is greater than Q1 of 2023.
- Expenses also greater - includes Development Director.
- Other numbers are in line with expectations and similar to Q1 2023.

LifeRing Development Report

Lorraine shared her Development Director's Report. Highlights:

New format – timelines added.

- Philanthropic Donations/Activity
 - Will share spending details with Katie Georgitis of Comeau Foundation.
 - Finding more family foundations.
 - Donor-Advised Funds – exploring opportunities.
- Grant Funding
 - Two Notices of Funding Activity (NOFOs)
 - Building Communities of Recovery (BCOR)
 - Ohio Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Efforts
 - Instrumentl – Grant proposal writing webinar – Lorraine signed up for classes.
 - Colorado opportunity

Internal Fundraising

- Fundraising/Marketing/Communications Committee meeting regularly
- Bequest page – proposal to bring back bequest page on LifeRing Website
- 27 year anniversary of LifeRing is 4/24/24 – opportunity to raise funds

LifeRing Book Sales Report

Robert presented Q1 sales numbers.

Sue mentioned the San Francisco Public Library *Read for Recovery* program, which provides copies of recovery books for the taking. Sue will encourage the librarian to stock more LifeRing titles.

LifeRing Teams Updates

Social Media Update

Bobbi shared social media efforts. Highlights:

- Facebook update – LifeRing Secular Recovery page now back in the hands of LifeRing
 - Facebook requires a private account to have a business account
 - Bobbi created a private account for friending
 - Link: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61558037292201>
 - Once new official page is familiar, the old page will be disabled
 - Bobbi is standardizing and documenting social media practices for LifeRing.
- Goals:
- Information security
 - Documented practices and procedures

Njon mentioned a LinkedIn presence, created years ago, that can be revived.

In-Person California Regional Rep

Introducing Michael, California's new In-person Regional Representative

LifeRing Teams Projects Report

Sue shared the LifeRing Teams Status Report. Highlights:

- Five active committees.
- BOD encouraged to read the updates.

Strategic Plan Review

Lisa shared the Strategic Plan and opened the floor for members and attendees to share work toward the strategic objectives. Highlights:

- Robert identified Michael as Regional Rep
- Joe identified a potential convenor
- Mark F encourages attendees to talk about LifeRing to medical professionals.
- Sue is updating the "For Professionals" pamphlet, and updating a presentation for academic settings

Adjournment of Board of Directors Meeting

Sue made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robert seconded.

VOTE: Sue verbally confirmed unanimous approval.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

LifeRing Public Forum

Alano Club of San Jose

Byron wants to challenge the 12-step-centric focus of the Alano Club

- The Outreach team will fund his efforts to provide LifeRing books and pamphlets.

Michael A. Question re: PDFs of LifeRing Books

- LifeRing does not distribute PDF copies of LifeRing books.
- LifeRing is aware of the limited availability of PDFs of *Recovery By Choice*.
- LifeRing does not discourage its use because it promotes recovery.
- Sections of *Recovery By Choice* available on the LifeRing site is a “teaser”.

Adjournment Of Public BOD Business Meeting

Sue adjourned the public board business meeting.

The public board business meeting closed at 10:37 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item #1 – LSRC Post – Code of Conduct Guidelines

Item #2 – Rafal exiting BOD

Item #3 – Conflict Resolution

Item #4 – Disturbance Guidelines Draft

Respectfully submitted on April 25, 2024 by Monica Foy